



Line- An Ambiguous Journey (touring)

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Line: An Ambiguous Journey

Exhibition of Contemporary Drawing

The Drawing Project, Crofton Road, Dun Laoghaire, Ireland
16 October – 30 October 2013
Opening Reception and Artists' Talk, Wednesday 16 October,
3:30pm

Crescent Arts Centre, University Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland
7 November – 28 November 2013
Opening Reception, Thursday 7 November, 6:30pm

Line: An Ambiguous Journey explores the practice of drawing on and beyond the paper source via the work of four practitioners currently working in the North of Ireland. The works presented in this group show bring together a diverse range of explorations into the drawing process including traditional and non-traditional media.

Whilst utilizing drawing as a fundamental tool for thinking across disciplines, this exhibition incorporating the exploration of mark-making among creative processes as a visual journey on conceptual drawing modes. Inaugural to this process the artists also question the use of drawing as an experimental approach and attitude, distinct from drawing as an outcome or discipline.

Exhibiting Artist's: Craig Donald . Doris Rohr . Joanne Proctor .
Anna Marie Savage

Co-curated by Joanne Proctor and Anna Marie Savage

More information can be found by visiting *The Drawing Project* Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Drawing-Project/162211540504351?sk=info> and artists' individual websites at <http://cargocollective.com/craigdonaldartist>
<http://www.joanneproctorartist.wordpress.com>
<http://www.axisweb.org/seCVPG.aspx?ARTISTID=8885>
<http://www.annamariesavage.com>

Craig Donald

Donald is interested in how we organise our experience of existence; how we construct a narrative from a sea of information and perceptions ranging from the physical to the abstract. He uses ideas of history and memory as tools to investigate the instability of knowledge as a whole; blending traditional narratives and historical models in order to create alternative histories. Collage, painting and drawing are utilised in an attempt to give physical form to an increasingly ephemeral world of vision. The created pieces become part of a system of connections, displayed in an installation format where they find themselves part of a larger narrative.

Biography

Born in Northern Ireland, Donald is a 2010 graduate of the University of Ulster, where he received a First Class Honours Degree in Fine and Applied Art. His practice investigates the structuring and control of consciousness and our experience of reality, particularly in relation to history & memory. He blends fact & fiction, integrating the personal with the political in an examination of the fluidity of the past. Recent group shows include *132nd RUA Annual Exhibition*, Ulster Museum, Belfast (2013) *Morning Room*, ReFound Building, Belfast (2012) and *Cursed*, Catalyst Arts, Belfast (2012). Donald is a recipient of SIAP, Arts Council of N. Ireland Award, 2010, Opportunity Scholarship Award, University of Ulster, 2010 and Dean's List 2009, awarded by University of Ulster.

<http://cargocollective.com/craigdonaldartist>



Image: Craig Donald, *Ethel's Room*, mixed media, 14.5 x 21.5 cm
2013

Joanne Proctor

With current research probing themes of identity, time, change, preservation, life and its ephemeral nature, Proctor addresses the interconnectedness of humans with each other and our planet. Through a visual journey mapping various approaches to the drawn line, she invites the viewer to reflect upon what it is to be human – existing, being, belonging and evermore becoming. Whilst utilising the needle as a drawing tool, Proctor has created a series of drawings uses her hair as a material which is hand sewn into paper or canvas, thus incorporating aspects of her own body in her work.

Biography

Born in Northern Ireland, Proctor studied at the University of Ulster, where she graduated in 2008 with a First Class BA Honours Degree in Fine and Applied Art. Drawing is a fundamental element to her practice which addresses concepts of nature and human identity. Recent exhibitions include *Co Lab*, University Gallery, University of Ulster, Belfast (2013) *The Omnia Scroll*, Brighton Jubilee Library, Brighton, England (2013) *Crystalline*, Millennium Court Arts Centre, Portadown (2012-13) and *Home Grown*, F.E. McWilliam Gallery, Banbridge (2011-2012). Proctor was shortlisted for the Bank of Ireland Student Toradh Award 2008 and was the recipient of the F.E. McWilliam Fine Art Bursary, 2009 and Support for the Individual Artists Programme (SIAP) Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland, 2013. Public collections include: Brooklyn Art Library, Brooklyn, New York, The Siena Art Institute, Siena, Italy and many private collections.

www.joanneproctorartist.wordpress.com

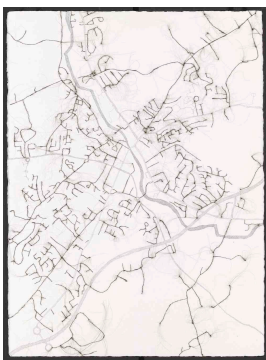


Image: Joanne Proctor, *Route-to-Root*, Ink dots and Hand-Stitched Human Hair (Artist's Own) on Paper, 57 x 77 cm, Dec 2011

Doris Rohr

Desiccated plant forms invite the viewer to consider how adaptive mechanisms might correlate to ecological survival. This multi-part drawing and watercolour *Cactus* forms part of a series of works addressing ecology and survival of life forms. Currently studying for PhD with Lancaster Institute of Contemporary Arts, Doris Rohr intends to investigate further how drawing may aid aesthetic awareness of the growing ecological crisis.

Biography

Doris Rohr was born in Germany, and studied at West Surrey College of Art and Design (BA Three-Dimensional Design: Glass), Coventry University (MA Fine Art), and Essex University (MA Philosophy/Psychoanalysis). Her practice is divided into teaching (University of Ulster and Open College of the Arts), drawing and writing.

Beyond drawing as practice and form of thinking, her research interests involve the relation of nature to culture and the quest of underlying order and form in nature. Rohr's work has been exhibited in Belgium, Thailand, Canada, England, Scotland, and in the USA. Recent exhibitions include *Synthetic Aesthetics*, Leitrim Sculpture Centre (2012) and *Drawing a Line*, University Gallery, Belfast (2011). Public collections include: House of Lords, London; the Arts Council of Northern Ireland; City Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham. Rohr is Associate Lecturer in Fine Art at the University of Ulster where she teaches Studio Practice (subject area painting and drawing) and History and Theory.

<http://www.axisweb.org/seCVPG.aspx?ARTISTID=8885>

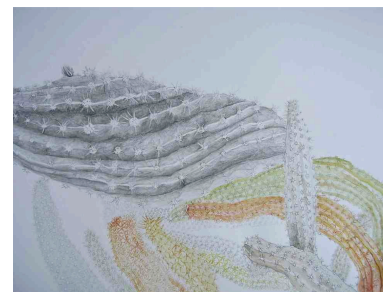


Image: Doris Rohr, *Cactus*, Pencil and Watercolour on Paper, 50 x 70cm, 2013

Anna Marie Savage

Anna Marie Savage's current body of work, *Toradh* is her response to the turf bogs of the Donegal Gaeltacht, where she spent a month's residency in May 2013. The works are informed by a strong constitution to place and the exploration of the connections between indigenous cultural forms and new forms of expression. As an artist who works with paint, sound and drawing, Savage is increasingly fascinated by the relationship between the fundamentals of two dimensional visuals and three dimensional forms and how they can embody the ideals of identity. *An Portach* is an assembly of 130 handmade turf paper pieces that addresses the fragility and unsustainability of an organic, natural resource.

Biography

Born in Northern Ireland, Savage is a Fine and Applied Art graduate of the University of Ulster, where she received a First Class Honours Degree in 2009. Her work explores the idea of studying 'identity' and more importantly how cultural and national identity is realized today. Recent exhibitions include *CeAmaRa agus other pinhole devices*, Cló Ceardlann na gCnoc, Min a Léa, Gort A Choirce, Tír Conaill (2013) and *Crystalline*, Millennium Court Arts Centre, Portadown (2012-13). Savage was recently awarded the Cló Ceardlann na gCnoc Residency Award as part of the Úr Programme, supported by EACEA, Culture Ireland and Arts Council of Ireland; was shortlisted for the RHA Tony O'Malley Studio Residency Award 2011 and recipient of SIAP, Arts Council N.Ireland Award 2012.

Anna Marie Savage: www.annamariesavage.com



Image: Anna Marie Savage, *An Portach*, Detail of Handmade Turf Paper Installation. 270cm x 150cm 2013

The Drawing Project: An Ambiguous Journey An Exhibition of Contemporary Drawing

The Drawing Project: An Ambiguous Journey explores the practice of drawing on and beyond the paper source via the work of four practitioners currently working in the North of Ireland. The works presented in this group show will bring together a diverse range of explorations into the drawing process including traditional and non-traditional media. The four artists' will collectively explore the boundaries of the drawn line; investigating in essence, what lies beyond drawing.

Whilst utilizing drawing as a fundamental tool for thinking across disciplines, this exhibition will probe such areas as to question 'What constitutes a drawing?', incorporating the exploration of mark-making among creative processes as a visual journey on conceptual drawing modes. Inaugural to this process the artists will question the use of drawing as an experimental approach and attitude, distinct from drawing as an outcome or discipline.

This new body of work will explore cross disciplinary drawing, addressing how the use of other materials challenge the assumptions of what drawing is or might be - conceptually, visually and as importantly technologically. In the recent publication, *Hyperdrawing*,¹ Siún Hanrahan states, 'assumptions are challenged about what is proper to drawing in terms of purity - it refuses to assume that the conventions of other mediums have no place in drawing. *Hyperdrawing* and the practices it assembles, as a spur to discourse, might thus prompt reflection upon what makes an event or object a drawing'.²

By establishing drawing as an ambiguous practice, this exhibition aims to showcase and stimulate diverse perspectives on contemporary drawing, its theories and methodologies whilst embodying the ideals of identity, memory and mortality. Ultimately, what classifies or categorizes these works as drawings is left to the viewer to make their own judgments.

¹ Marshall, R. and Sawdon, P. *Hyperdrawing: Beyond the Lines of Contemporary Art*, (London: I.B Tauris, 2012)

² Hanrahan, S., 2011. Acts of Hubris. In, *Hyperdrawing: Beyond the Lines of Contemporary Drawing Research*, Marshall, R. and Sawdon, P. [TRACEY] (eds), I.B. Tauris: London, pp: xxiv-xxix.